## REMARKS

Claims 1-30 remain pending in this application.

The Examiner rejected claims 1, 2, 4, 5, 9-15, 19-22, and 24-26, under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,219,417 (***Zhou***). Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

As noted in the background of the patent application, conventional systems typically perform ring-trip detection based on comparing the calculated power of the received signal to a threshold value. *See,* page 3 of the patent application. However, as also noted in the patent application, the method by which the conventional systems calculate the power of the received signal is based on some pre-determined, extrapolated values (*e.g.,* a period of 44 milliseconds for ring-trip detection, for instance). *Id.* Thus, for example, regardless of whether a 20 Hz ringing signal or a 25 Hz ringing signal is employed by a line card, the line card utilizes a pre-defined period of 44 milliseconds for the purposes of calculating the power of the received signal. In this manner, the conventional systems use a pre-defined period based on the frequency of the transmitted signal rather than calculating a period of the received signal. Accordingly, these conventional systems at least do not determine a period of the AC component based on the received signal. Instead, as noted, the conventional systems use a pre-defined, extrapolated value to calculate a power of a received signal. One way of determining the period of the received signal in accordance with the present invention is to use a zero crossing method, as noted in claim 4. The patent application explains that the use of these predefined, extrapolated values (or compromising integration times) in conventional systems can result, for example, in at least 10% false detections. *See* page 4 of the patent application. Similarly, conventional systems at least do

not determine a value proportional to a power of the AC component of the received signal over at least a portion of a period of the AC component.

Claim 1, among other things, calls for receiving at least a portion of the transmitted signal from the subscriber line, and further calls for determining at least a portion of a period of the AC component based on the received signal. And, claim 5, among other things, calls for determining a value proportional to a power of the AC component of the received signal over at least a portion of the period of the AC component. Claims 1 and 5 further call for performing an act (*e.g.*, ring-trip detection or AC fault detection) of a line card in response to determining the above mentioned value.

***Zhou*** is directed to ring trip detection in a communication system. The Examiner asserts that text at col. 11, line 13 through col. 12, line 13 of ***Zhou*** teaches features of claims 1 and 5. *See*, pages 2-3 of the Office Action. The Applicant respectfully disagrees. ***Zhou***, like the conventional systems described in the background of the patent application, at least does not teach determining at least a portion of a period of the AC component based on the received signal (see claim 1) or determining a value proportional to a power of the AC component of the received signal over at least a portion of the period of the AC component (see claim 5). In fact, ***Zhou*** discloses (at col. 11, line 66 – col. 12, line 4) that, in operation, the ring trip detection is performed by comparing an output signal to a predetermined threshold value, much in the same manner as conventional systems. Thus, ***Zhou*** at least does not teach the aforementioned features of claims 1 and 5. It is noted that the Applicant is not arguing that the present invention excludes storage and comparison of predetermined threshold values; rather, the Applicant contends that the applied reference does not teach the aforementioned features recited in claims 1 and 5. Thus,

for at least this reason, claim 1 and claim 5 are each allowable. Furthermore, claims depending from these independent claims are also allowable. Additionally, the other pending claims are also allowable for this reason to the extent they call for one of these claimed features.

Reconsideration of the present application is respectfully requested, and a Notice of Allowance is respectfully solicited.

If for any reason the Examiner finds the application other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to call the undersigned attorney at the Houston, Texas telephone number (713) 934-4064 to discuss the steps necessary for placing the application in condition for allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

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